The Daily and Weekly Commercial.—
NEWSPAPER DECISIONS.—1. Any one who takes papers regularly from the Postoffice—whether direct d to his name or another's, or whether he has subscribed or not—is responsible for the payment.

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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh, Pa.

1875. THE 1875.

PITTSBURGH

Commercial

A Political, Literary, Commercial and General Newspaper,

DEVOTED TO THE

Best Interests of the People!

IN POLITICS,

The COMMERCIAL will hereafter, as heretofore, be devoted to the support of Republican principles, maintaining its independence within the Republican Party, and claiming the right at all times to speak fearlessly and fearlessly on the merits of men and measures. Party government is essential to a constitutional country, and journals claiming to be independent of party are usually also independent of principle. Faithful to the great convictions and aims upon which the Republican Party was based, it is the mouthpiece of no clique or faction, supporting the party solely because it is believed that party is founded on principles of Right and Justice.

THE EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

Of the COMMERCIAL will contain, from day to day, contributions from able writers upon all subjects—Political, Literary, Scientific, Legal, Commercial, Foreign and Social—in which its views will be set forth plainly and independently, keeping in view the prime aim of the paper, which is the advancement of the best interests of all sections of the country.

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Will always contain brief but accurate reports of all the occurrences of the day. Liberal expenditures will be made in securing early and correct telegrams and correspondence from the great news centers of the country, so that readers of the COMMERCIAL can always rely on being advised of the early and reliable news.

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PITTSBURGH, PA.

THE SALT OF THE EARTH.

AN ORIGINAL STORY.

WRITTEN EXPRESSLY FOR THE

Weekly Commercial.

We shall commence the publication, in our

Weekly of Saturday, January 2,

Of an Original Serial Story, entitled

"THE SALT OF THE EARTH,"

BY

Mrs. Edith Browne Nelson.

Of this city, which will run through the ensuing thirteen weeks. The scene of the Story is partly in Pittsburgh and partly in New York, and opens up with a great deal of interest.

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PITTSBURGH, PA.

The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XII.—NO. 9. WEEKLY EDITION. JANUARY 9, 1875.

NEW YEAR'S DAY, 1875.

BY MRS. LEVI WADE.

The rosy day, so fair and bright,
Sprang lightly from the arms of night,
And lonely vale and mountain height
Were clad in robes of golden light.

As o'er the hill-tops, mist and haze
Fled swiftly from the cheering rays,
A psean rose of joyful lays—
All nature sang Jehovah's praise.

The morning stars together sang,
As this new day to being sprang;
The pealing bells with merry clang
Their notes of hallelujah rang.

New life in every bosom stirred;
The tender look, the loving word,
In eyes were seen, from lips were heard.
As hearts estranged their love averred.

Wrong feelings all set right at last;
Old grudges buried in the past;
May Love's bright links be welded fast,
Its chain o'er every heart be cast.

THE SALT OF THE EARTH.

A NEW YORK EPISODE.

BY EDITH BROWN NELSON.

Author of "Joined for Life," "Hidden From Sight," "Tales of the Period," "My Schoolmate's Story," Etc., Etc.

CHAPTER II.

The extraordinary nature of the communication I held in my hand burst upon me abruptly, without even the usual affectionate preface that a daughter would naturally expect to receive from her father. Thus it commenced:

"It has come to my knowledge, Celestia, that you have formed an attachment to a young man of the name of Sydney Spencer, and that he is only a clerk at Stewart's establishment, and occupies a very inferior social position to yourself. I understand, despite all these drawbacks, you have the magnanimity to resign all your present advantages in order to help him up the steep hill of fortune.

"Perhaps you think I am angered or grieved by your choice. Not at all. I only wonder to find that anomaly, a real, breathing, beating heart in that heap of dust and ashes—a fashionable woman's existence. Far be it from me to rudely break 'Love's young dream,' by the exercise of any control over your actions. You have my full permission to marry when and where you please. Your aunt has received orders to provide a suitable wedding outfit and delay all pecuniary supplies; but, after the ceremony, I wish both of you to distinctly understand that success in life must depend upon your own unaided exertions. The popular folly of giving the bride a wedding portion large enough to cover the gentleman's liabilities I feel sure your high spirit would scorn. I am told you are generous, I will not say extravagant, but I think you would cease to care for expensive follies when the necessity to save for the man you love is felt.

"Most nobly you have stood the test of worldly ambition, and I sincerely congratulate Mr. Spencer on the prize he has won. Accept this small gift to wear upon the happy day, and my hearty commendations of which a discriminating choice in the very heart of 'Vanity Fair.'

"Mr. Spencer, I hear is handsome, honest, and devoted to you. What more will a true woman ask? I hope you may find him a new dress for every day in the week, and the envy of every other woman when I wear them,' but you have a soul above fashion and the petty sacrifices, and can wear with equal happiness a shilling calico. You will doubtless find as much felicity in a six roomed flame cottage as if you have hitherto in a brown stone front.

"A truly independant soul can expand itself even in a hand box. In conclusion, I will say that an early settlement in life for you is most desirable, and that the duty of a daughter should always be subservient to the duty of a wife. Favor me, my dear, through your aunt, a positive written denial that you ever contemplated matrimony with the gentleman in question (which I do not at all anticipate) before I hear of your marriage shortly through the medium of the papers, so do not trouble to write to me, as I am very often away from Pittsburgh, and in a few days' time shall start on a business trip West. Good-bye, little girl. Doubtless you remember that 'God helps those who help themselves,' and far more easily than Horace Doolittle."

Like an icy blast the unexpected substance of that cruel letter thrilled me.

My warm, excited feelings underwent a gradual freezing process during its perusal, and at the conclusion I felt quite helpless from my hand, and I sat forlorn and shuddering at the bleak possibilities of life so suddenly presented to me, as my petted and dainted self would say, had been flung ejected suddenly from his gilded cage into the raw world without, exposed to wintry storms, and the invidious peck of rival species.

Through the affected kindness of the writer, there ran a scorching, subtile irony, but the cruelest sarcasm of all was the insidious flattery that blinded, with which he invested one of the most selfish of God's creatures. By my father's orders I was "clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day." By his orders, I had been indulged in every extravagance and folly, and now when the fruit of the seed sown was fully ripe, he affected to believe only such gigantic germs nurtured in a different soil. A possible suspicion began to dawn that there was some conspiracy recently set on foot in my own home against me, but I dismissed the purpose my aunt had made mischief and divulged to my father the silly flirtation existing between Syd and I, and exaggerated it into a perfect engagement. As if I was capable of the sacrifices a love match entails, I, whose greatest trial, since my *debut*, had been the misfit of an evening silk. He was not angry or grieved at the news of an imprudent match, and yet all parental interest and care would cease with it. And what, in the name of heaven, should I do, shorn ruthlessly of a father's care, the ties that had squeezed it from my birth? Who would take care of me for the future as he had done—give me as handsome a home, as expensive toilettes, as generous an allowance? Not to spend in as expensive a price I pleased? Not unfortunate Syd., on his salary of nine hundred dollars a year; not my pleasure-loving aunt, whose interest in me would cease with the loss of my liberal allowance: not the host of fashionable friends who only stayed, like the swallows, while summer lasted.

Ousted from my present sphere at such sudden warning, my condition would indeed be pitiable.

And what was the cause of the descent of this avalanche upon me, unless, on the one hand, my father was covertly indignant at my ignoble choice, or on the other was glad of a fair excuse to be rid of the burden of me altogether? It recoiled as though a gulf had opened at my very feet from this last, bitterest thought; but it fastened with such terrible tenacity on my mind that I started up with the impulsive determination to seek my aunt and find out the worst. Outside the door of the room I found Julie, so close to the keyhole that I nearly stumbled over her.

The suspicion that she had played me false, and that through her means my aunt had learned every iota of Syd's folly, which, highly colored, she had afterward transmitted to my father, was corroborated now, I thought.

With a good imitation of famous Madame Ristori's *role* of Queen Elizabeth confronting Amy Robsart, I reproached her.

All the satisfaction I gained was a piteous rolling up of the eyes, a distracted wringing of the hands, and a great many protestations of unerring fidelity, *a la Francaise*.

"Oh, *mon Dieu, Mademoiselle vous vous trompez*," she was still crying, as I left her, resolved to seek the fountain head for information. The pink room was a favorite resort of my aunt's for her morning sitting room, with the ostensible reason that it was so light and cheerful, and faced on Central Park; but I had an idea the delicious tint of the walls and furniture, so becoming to the complexion, had something to do with it.

Thither I directed my steps, striving to rein in the rising indignation, which I would be better policy to dissemble.

A wise general keeps his tactics veiled from the foe till the hour is ripe for action, you know.

An animated buzz of voices greeted my ears as I entered.

Aunt Flavia was holding inquest on divers different articles of raiment taken from my wardrobe, assisted by a curious jury of two, *i. e.* the venerable maid who had been her attendant from infancy to age and Madame Gardezvous, who manufactured a fashionable toilette and a fashionable scandal with equal grace and facility.

In as *nonchalant* a manner as I could assume I sank into an easy chair and inquired, "What in the world they were debating over my old cast off dresses?"

Aunt's well-drilled physiognomy showed no change, save a momentary surprise and discovery of their employment, though I am sure it was unexpected. She probably thought me safely out of the way, engrossed with my father's letter and present for an hour, at least.

But I and my fineries were evidently the subject *sur le tapis*, and it was impossible to stop the vivacious tongue of Madame, who was very devoted to us both, on the strength of our very long bills to her.

"*Ve done, ma belle !*" she exclaims, her black eyes twinkling with mischief as she affects to conceal behind her spare little person the *robe de bal* in her hand. "We look not for thee now, bad one. This is what you call one service secret *veritable lettres de cachet, n'est-ce pas?*" And she turned archly to my aunt, who replied with admirable *sang froid*.

"It is no matter, Madame: we had intended a pleasant surprise, 'tis true, but she must have known it sooner or later. My dear," turning to me with her most indulgent smile, "you probably guess from your father's letter why all these pretty things are being investigated." The flame in my heart blazed out, I fear, fiercely enough in my eyes as I began impetuously, quite forgetting the presence of strangers, "Pray keep all such interest in my wardrobe for a very distant day. It is about that most cruel and inexplicable letter I come to you, and I will not wait a moment."

"Not one single instant, for your own sake?" aunt whispered, so rapidly, so adroitly, in time to save me from talking nonsense in public, that I felt truly grateful.

Minette was bound by long years of confidence to her mistress, and showed a wonderful amount of significance in her grey eyes at times, but she was that treasure, a woman who knew something but *talked* nothing. Madame, on the contrary, was only worsted by her imperfect knowledge of English. I was alarmed at the greedy intentness of her look, and only made matters worse by an embarrassed pause. Aunt turned easily to the French woman, and a confidential whisper or two was exchanged that dismissed the latter smiling.

Then Minette was bidden to remove and carefully replace the apparel of Miss Celestia, the door was locked carefully, and we were alone. Thus opened our first engagement, the forerunner of many yet to come.

Aunt—My love, when will you practice as well as theorize upon your favorite line of Tennyson—

"There is no joy but calm?"

Emotion will rob you of your principal charm, a white, smooth skin, before you are thirty. Besides, don't you know that as long as you let the world even suspect there is something wrong somewhere, the smallest thorn in the rose, the lightest crack in the gilding, it will raise a hue-and-cry after you?

I had hoped you were better fitted to hold your own in the world, but it all comes of being brought up in a cloistered state of society. "Well, thank heaven I was born and educated in Europe!"

Neice (*con furioso*)—And thank God I am an American girl, able not only to love universal justice, but to demand it!

I find myself misrepresented in every respect to my father, my actions, my purpose in the most grossly misunderstood, and I have a right to inquire how this ridiculous report of a marriage never contemplated by either of the parties mentioned reached his ears.

Aunt (revolving her rings)—I suppose you allude to Mr. Spencer? Poor young man! it seems we have all made a mistake from which he will be the greatest sufferer.

Niece (fiercely)—He has not *dared* to make unfounded assertions to you or written to my father, has he?

Aunt (adjusting her bracelets,)—Men, in love, are perfect slaves to their own pensive fence, and it is just and right that they should wear shackles before marriage if they break them six months afterward. It is very probable Mr. Spencer has applied formally for the father's consent, thinking himself secure of the daughter's, for from whom otherwise could he learn anything? The immitable Sally will, I think, my aunt Israels, of I had often admired, when it was tedious to go down stairs and entertain a troublesome caller; but on this occasion I hardly approved of her unceremonious intrusion, however, there was no alternative, I thought, but to accept the situation and fight her with her own weapons.

"Well, dismiss," she said, laughing carelessly, "this is a terrible *melange*, evidently, but I do not despair of setting it right. In the meantime I shall not write to my brother, but leave you to do so. Meanwhile, in own handwriting a complete denial of the existence of such a ridiculous engagement. Why, Aunt Flavia, consider, *could* I fill the heroine position of a poor man's wife, even if I would?"

Aunt (yawning)—Is it not time for luncheon? Surely I heard the bell. You are not obliged to do anything to please, my dear. After such an argument, I remain more firmly convinced than ever that you have a mind powerful enough to resist influence in any minor affair, but on the contrary, am a very poor creature, quite unable to be guided by my own judgment, and blindly follow directions without question. Pray don't trouble yourself, Celestia, if you see preparations for this *trousseau* still progressing. I hear only to obey, and if all the pretty things are never used for this unfortunate affair, after all, I am sure we can turn them to some other good use for you.

With this she left me for the second time unsatisfied.

What could I do? In the first place, the full current of my indignation turned against unfortunate Syd., whose blundering, so aunt hinted, had brought all the trouble. For his benefit I speedily concocted a *billet* that in any other mood (knowing his fiery nature) I should have modified with a few sage phrases, and disguised it not with it. I had not forgiven her assumed treachery toward a very easy and indulgent mistress, but the girl's red eyes and deceitful expression softened my mind, and I felt sure on this occasion she would not play me false. The second epistle was more difficult to write. Purposely I had misled my aunt into the belief that it was too angry and aggrieved to address my father for the present. Firmly convinced as I now was that active mischief had been concocted against me behind my back, I must dissimulate, for my own security, as adroitly as herself. But it was hard to write carelessly, without any of the emotion I really felt, when my heart and long the pen lay idle before these lines were penned:

"DEAR PAPA.—Most distinctly, I deny the existence of any engagement between Mr. Spencer and myself, or that either of us dream of so imprudent a marriage. In his circumstances it would indeed be absurdity. Papa, he is in debt for his last suit of clothes at this moment), and I wear too many pretty things, thanks to your generosity, to rest satisfied with the calico wrapper of the future. My present life is pleasant enough to leave matrimony out of it. I don't believe in love in a six-roomed cottage one bit, for the walls are sure to leak and let Cupid out of it, not to speak of colds, coughs, general debility and dilapidations within.

"I believe you are laughing at me when you give me the qualities of a Joan of Arc or Madame Roland. Indeed, I am not more selfish and fond of caps than women, but am afraid, ah, papa, terribly afraid of walking through the mud of the world instead of riding in the carriage. I very nice to feel ambitious and desire to climb up hills, of course, but I was nearly killed last summer ascending the White mountains.

"Please, papa, believe nothing you hear, unless it comes directly from myself. Your exraordinary letter has made me distrust even those immediately connected with me. Mr. Spencer's confirmation of my denial that anything but a silly flirtation was ever sustained between us, I enclose, and trust that ere soon you return from the West you will come here to tell me yourself you are satisfied, or send for me to Pittsburgh, which I am very anxious to visit.

"Your affectionate daughter,

"CELESTIA DOOLITTLE."

Securely this effusion was locked up in the secret drawer of my desk to await Julie's return, at the decided refutation of I had demanded from Syd., and then I went down to luncheon with as gay and disengaged air as usual. I thought auntie gazed a little keenly into my eyes once or twice as we sat opposite each other sipping our chocolate, but she buried herself presently in the columns of the *Times*, and I was left to my own disturbed speculations without any question. Pray Heaven, my

MESSAGE
OF
GOVERNOR HARTRANFT

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives:

The wonderful powers of reincarnation here-tofore exhibited by the American people in recovering from panic and misfortune inspired the hope, twelve months ago, that the dawn of the present year would discover the country released from the distrust and effects of the financial panic of 1873, and inaugurate a period of confidence and prosperity. That this hope has not been realized, is painfully manifest, when throughout the length and breadth of our own great State are found furnaces chilled, factories still, mining shafts in process of decay, and myriads of unemployed men, with no resources to provide for themselves and families against the rigors of the winter that now holds all nature in its cold embrace. We must not be unmindful that distressing embarrassments, like the present, often breed a spirit of restlessness and discontent that ascribes to the existing government the ills that afflict society. It is therefore expected, in the presence of our depressed trade and languishing industries, that the efforts of those who are serving the public shall be directed to the practice of the most rigid economy. Let us confirm these expectations by unusual diligence in the dispatch of the public business, a constant study of the general welfare, and the application of every means in our power to reduce the burdens of the people; and with this view we commend to your scrutiny of every item in the appropriation bill. In this season of distress no outlay of money should be made except what is absolutely required for the ordinary expenses of the government, and to make provision for the maintenance of those charitable and charitable institutions with whose management the State is charged. Where misery would be enabled upon any human being or the interest of science suffer by withholding aid to other educational or charitable institutions, humanity and a sense of public duty will approve of some assistance, but unless for these or equally imperative reasons it is my solemn conviction that no appropriation should be made for any institution other than those in which the people of the whole State are responsible.

FINANCES.

The brief statement of the finances herewith submitted is made to embrace the details of most interest, and I invite your attention thereto with a view to a more intelligent appreciation of the discussion that follows:

Debt Redeemed.

During fiscal year ending November 30, 1874:

Six per cent. loan	$ 1,219,650 00
Five per cent. loan	9,900 00
Chambersburg certificates	2,062 30
Relief notes	32 00
Interest certificates	19 67
Total	$ 1,230,186 57

Receipts.

During fiscal year ending November 30, 1874:

Balance in Treasury November 30, 1873	$ 1,835,151 24
Receipts	5,571,968 27
	$ 7,407,119 51

Disbursements.

During fiscal year ending November 30, 1874:

Ordinary expenses	$ 3,946,126 62
Loans redeemed	1,230,186 90
Interest paid on loans	1,466,274 31
	$ 6,642,587 83
Balance in Treasury November 30, 1874	$ 1,664,531 65

Public Debt.

Six per cent. loans	$19,321,550 00
Five per cent. loans	4,965,354 91
Four and a half per cent loans	87,090 00
	$24,371,884 91

Unfunded Debt.

Relief notes in circulation	$96,196 00
Interest certificates outstanding	13,049 02
Interest on certificates unclaimed	4,448 38
Domestic creditors certificates	25 00
Chamberlsburg certificates outstanding	82,769 28
Chambersburg certificates unclaimed	263 68
	196,751 36
Public debt, November, 30, 1874	$24,568,635 27

Bonds in Sinking Fund.

Bonds of Pennsylvania Railroad Company	$5,500,000 00
Bonds of Allegheny Valley Railroad Company	3,500,000 00
	9,000,000 00

During the fiscal year ending November 30, 1874, the receipts of the Treasury amounted to $7,407,119 51, which is $1,835,151 24 more than last year the revenue, have sensibly diminished, and the receipts from corporation taxes $500,000. This diminution of $1,230,574 93 was occasioned by the repeal, in 1873, of the taxes on gross receipts of railroads, on earnings of insurance and other corporations, and the tax on cattle and farming implements. It is worthy of remark that the relief afforded by the repeal of these taxes was mainly in the interest of corporations employing the greatest number of working men. With the reduction of the revenue, and with an increased expenditure of nearly $200,000, necessary by the mandate of the Constitution in the additional outlay for schools, Legislature and judiciary, it is manifest that the severest economy must be observed in all the departments of the government, and the appropriations considerately and wisely made, or the State will be unable to meet its obligations under the existing tax laws.

By the Constitution, the proceeds of the sale of public works, and by act of last session, approved May 8, 1874, the net proceeds of the sale of all corporations were assigned to the Sinking Fund, which can only be applied to the payment of loans redeemed and interest on the public debt. The receipts from other sources belong to the general revenue fund, and as all the expenditures of the government are payable therefrom, it will be clearly the duty of the Legislature to limit the appropriation to the amount of this fund.

INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.

The report of the Superintendent of Common Schools, wherein the statistics of our educational system are presented with unusual care, will command the careful study of those interested in the mental and moral training of our youths. Convincing as these details are, of the close relationship that exists between education and the true welfare of the State, our people are still slow to avail themselves of the complex system of her industries, how manifold are the places where practical knowledge and handicraft is necessary.

It is to our mineral wealth and manufactures we mainly owe our riches, power, and the advantages we possess over many States. Our mines, furnaces, rolling mills, locomotive works, and the countless factories, all over the her products are formed for use, trained hands and minds are always wanted. Can they be found among our own population? Reason and just complaint is made of the want of skilled labor in our midst, and this constant recourse had to foreign countries to supply this pressing need. In our great iron and other industries, and wherever skill is required, we employ the greatest number of those employed have acquired their experience in Europe, or the Eastern States. Is it time that Pennsylvania is absolved herself from this dependence, that imposes upon many of her sons the condition of common laborers, and the filling of overseers from without the State?

In the old world and other great State, with her exhaustless wealth, wherein are all the elements of empire, shall her children be the hewers of wood and drawers of water, or shall they assume the position to which their birthright entitles them, and direct and control her destiny? Can any small number of our boys become artizans, and yet it is a maxim of political economy that the measure of a State's prosperousness is in proportion to the skill of its labor. We divide in this Commonwealth ten millions of dollars annually to educate our children, and no one doubts the wisdom, policy or necessity of this expenditure; nor are the objections to the present systems at her schools, not one has any special fitness for a trade or any acquirements that will enable them to command a position with the skilled labor engaged, in many instances at high prices, in extracting our mineral stores or in the conduct of the great industries that are the pride and chief support of the State.

It is respectfully suggested that the present Legislature are interested in any design that concerns the honor and welfare of the State, and I appeal to your judgment whether the dictates of common sense and a proper appreciation of the true sources of our prosperity do not demand that opportunity should be made for training a portion of our children in a knowledge of the mechanic arts, and I beg leave to offer a few suggestions as the outlines of a plan to impart this knowledge which, upon examination, I believe to be both practicable and applicable to our system of education. Let young men in our common schools who desire to become mechanical engineers or master mechanics, or acquire a knowledge of some particular branch of mechanical industry, be transferred to schools devoted to such as taught the sciences that bear upon, and especially mathematics, in their relation to the trade they wish to learn. Lecture and draughting rooms should be provided and a workshop furnished with all the requisite machinery, the former to be presided over by a professor of mechanical engineering and the latter potentially superintended by a master mechanic. The time of the students could be divided between the schoolroom and the workshop, and the lessons of each in time could be reduced to practice in the other, and a knowledge be obtained in the workshop of processes made use of from the simplest to the most complicated work. Is there any practical obstacles to such a plan? I reply in the negative, so that they can calculate the size and parts of a machine, then draught and finally make it with their own hands. The schools in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and other large manufacturing cities, where the means of acquiring information of this kind are ample, schools, such as I have described, might be established without great cost. But if no provision is made therefor by the local school boards, the State should be pledged to give them proper assistance.

COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

If a parent neglects the education of a child, or each of the children of his family, when the state affords the facilities for its instruction, can it be argued that it is despotic or destructive of the principles of free institutions to compel the attendance of that child at school, and is it only a duty to the child to do so, and to the child alone, but to her own safety, to rescue it from the condition of life this indifference or greed may impose upon it? I compare it, not only to be self-sustaining, but a good citizen as well? An ignorant men are not caught by criminals, but this unfortunate class are recruited the greatest portion of those who fill our penitentiaries, houses and jails. When, in certain sections of the United States, you find only seven per cent of the people over the age of ten years who cannot read and write, and discover that the majority of the crime committed in these sections is committed by this ignorant seven per cent. It will not do to deny the inference that education tends to restrain from crime. The statistics of pauperism likewise show that the illiterate and ignorant crowd our poorhouses, and in the small proportion of the inmates of these institutions have had any of the advantages of education. It may be said the state has no interest in the suppression of an evil that is the prolific source of so much misery and suffering, and that pauperism are burdens which the State has to bear, and to make use of every preventive of such evils is the dictate of good policy and humanity.

There is, however, a more urgent reason why the State should compel the education of all the children within her jurisdiction. It is patent to every observer that where there is an aggregation of the ignorant and vicious classes, the laws regulating suffrage are frequently violated, and the most effectual remedy for this pernicious evil is the school. It is the nursery of the good citizen; regulates his will and action by certain fixed principles, informs and disciplines his mind, and excites and fortifies his self respect. Receiving his education at the hands of the State, the child is taught to look upon her as his benefactor, and with the increase of his years is evolved the corresponding growth in his respect and veneration for the Commonwealth from whose beneficence he has received an education that made him not an ingrate, who, taught by the State and having his mind enriched by the stores from her bounty, will use the gifts thus bestowed in corrupting her councils or undermining the faith of her people in the sanctity or efficiency of her laws. The lesson of the common school is love of country and obedience to authority, a far truer sense of allegiance than the forced services of those intrusted with government be employed upon a subject more vital to the interests of society than to secure the education of every child within the operation of its laws, and I sincerely trust that from the wisdom of the Legislature will emanate some system that will at least gather the neglected children of the Commonwealth into institutions where, identified with the conditions of a citizen's and a State's prouderousness is proportion to the skill of its labor. We divide in this Commonwealth ten millions of dollars annually to educate our children, and no one doubts the wisdom, policy or necessity of this expenditure; nor are the objections to the present systems at her schools, not one has any special fitness for a trade or any acquirements that will enable them to command a position with the skilled labor engaged, in many instances at high prices, in extracting our mineral stores or in the conduct of the great industries that are the pride and chief support of the State.

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NAVAL SCHOOL.

I invite your attention to an act of Congress, approved the 30th day of June, 1874, under which the Naval School at Annapolis is established at Philadelphia, for the instruction of youths in navigation. The importance of a school of this kind cannot be over-estimated, especially to a commercial city like Philadelphia, and the liberal offer of the National Government will enable the instruction to be given in a practical way under a competent superintendent.

SOLDIERS' ORPHANS.

The education and maintenance of the soldiers' orphans will continue to elicit your sympathy and aid. No object should make a more successful appeal to our consideration than the condition of these unfortunate children, whose future will be shaped and usefulness largely determined by the instruction they receive from the State. A number of these orphans, distinguished by good conduct and mental qualities that adapted them to the calling of teachers, have been transferred upon the examination of their terms, from the Orphan to the Normal schools of the State, where they are being fitted for that useful occupation. What the State should do to obtain employment or a means of livelihood for the residue of these children who are in need of assistance, is a matter, I feel assured, you will not think unworthy of attention.

CENTENNIAL.

As the time approaches for the Centennial celebration of the nation's independence, a broader and more generous sympathy with its objects is apparent. While a large majority opposition is shown to make the exhibition on that occasion only a faithful representation of our various material and industrial resources, but to manifest as well that when the nation's jubilee of liberty and power are concerned, the American people move with a common interest. It has been conceded from its inception that the Centennial Board have the sanction and authority of all the States. It may be justly regarded with the character of a national enterprise, and the names of the States that have already enlisted in the cause, disclosed the preponderance of this opinion and the desire for harmony and unity of action. The Centennial must be constructed out of materials furnished from the whole Union, or its beauty will be marred and its symmetry destroyed. We owe it to ourselves, humanity and liberty to demonstrate that the full development of a country and its resources, the education of the masses, the grandest achievements of science, the most abundance fruits of industry, the blessings of religion, and the amplest protection to life and property can all be secured by, and are consistent with the largest share of freedom to man. We are to show that what the combined wisdom of ages and all nations endeavored such a form of government, and under whose direction the survey was to be made.

An annual appropriation of thirty-five thousand dollars was made for the survey expenses, and the whole work is to be completed within three years. To compose this Board ten gentlemen were chosen, from different sections of the State representing the various interests directly concerned in the survey, and possessing, it is believed, the necessary qualifications to fit them for the proper discharge of their important trust. Subsequently, a skilled and experienced and competent geologist was elected by the Board in June last, and in the brief period that has since elapsed the survey has progressed with great satisfaction, and the results soon to be given to the public. This is the second time I have had occasion to recommend the survey to your favorable consideration, and I feel confident, bespeak for the Commission during the continuance of their arduous labors the good will and assistance of the people of the State. With the limited appropriation investigations could not be made within the first year into every part of the State, but during the next two years with contemplated appropriation the thorough, complete and elaborate survey of the whole State may be expected. The publication of the results in a few weeks will embrace the results of the examinations of the iron ores and roofing slates of York, Adams, the Far Western counties; the fossil iron ore belt of the Juniata valley; the bituminous coal basins of Clearfield and Jefferson counties, and the coal regions of Venango county. Included therein will be those of the Anthracite coal fields, together with numerous analyses of ores, clays, coals and rocks, the whole to be accompanied and illustrated with carefully prepared maps.

The great benefits of the survey will be at once recognized in this section, and in a particularly by those who desire to develop, sell or lease their lands. A numerous application will be collected at Harrisburg, and when assorted and arranged, will be an invaluable contribution to the exhibition of the Centennial.

BOARD OF PARDONS.

To comply with the provisions of the new Constitution, so far as it was possible, and to satisfy the reasonable wish of the people, at the request of the Governor, early in the past fall the Board of Pardons, consisting of the Secretary of the Commonwealth began to act as a Board of Pardons, selecting a recorder, to whom all communications in relation to the cases to be addressed, that they might be arranged and prepared for a hearing. It was also made the duty to keep minutes of the proceedings of the Board, to secure a uniformity of action, and to report with the recommendations for pardon and the reasons therefor. The Board thus organized with one or two exceptions, has acted promptly and fully disposed, with every facility will be afforded for the examination of our own prodects. Philadelphia is enlarging her accommodations for the confinement of guests, the neighboring cities afford intumerable opportunities of a like kind, the extensive park belonging to the Centennial Grounds already adding to its natural beauty with the embellishments of art which public and private liberality is adorning its avenues, and the welcome accorded those who attend the opening of the Exhibition in keeping with the traditional hospitality of the people of Pennsylvania, and we trust will reflect honor upon the whole nation.

INSURANCE.

The necessity of an Insurance Department, and its usefulness, have become more clear since its creation, by the discovery of a number of unsafe and insolvent companies that were doing business in this State, and which, if they could not only to fraud but to the crime of forgery to deceive the public. The published assets of these companies, in the aggregate, amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars, upon examination proved to be worth worthless securities, the very possession of which was a convincing proof of an intention to practice fraud. The examinations of sound companies, the retention at home of the capital invested in insurance, the interests of the citizens will be subserved, and the State, alike demand the exposure of these fraudulent companies, and the enactment of a general law so stringent in its regulations that it will be impossible for adventurers, under the guise of an insurance company, to rob the public. Every facility for the detection of impostors should be afforded those charged with the examination, but the necessity of the immense interests involved in this business or insurance companies entitled to the protection the State can extend to them, and its inquiries should be so thorough that no form or corporate fraud can obtain a foothold.

I also renew my suggestions that they be made subject to examinations, required to publish quarterly statements, and be required to retain in their vaults a cash reserve of ten per cent. of their liabilities, for the protection of depositors, who furnish three-fourths of the money employed by these banks, demands the exercise of the most watchful care by the Legislature.

Banks are a necessity—public interest and convenience demand that they be conducted, created are of great public utility. Their profits are legitimate, and they contribute to give more serious attention to the science of government and measures for the purification of the politics of administration and law. The most pregnant mischief, however, of our pernicious system of banking is commonly has yet been found, is the disinclination of men of character and influence to devote a small portion of their time, effectively to create a public sentiment, and to the selection of men for office who will faithfully represent it. Whatever it is considered one of the first advantages we possess under our form of government is the power we have at the polls of these to be made and administer our laws. If compelled by any arbitrary power to surrender this privilege, we would do so only with our lives, yet how many citizens, charged with the sacred duty of voting with as much indifference and as little investigation as to the merits of the candidates as they would cast the necessary qualifications to fit them for the proper discharge of their important trust. To this apathy, dignity of character and untiring energy, the country will be indebted for a large measure of the success of the Centennial, and in what remains for them to do, these qualities should vanish distrust and command for them confidence and support. The work upon the buildings intended for the exhibition, is progressing rapidly, and the elements of art architecture and proportions will be a credit to the nation. The space to be allowed has been carefully allotted to each section, and ample provision made that the articles exhibited will be properly and fully displayed, while every facility will be afforded for the examination of our own products. Philadelphia is enlarging her accommodations for the entertainment of guests, the neighboring cities afford intumerable opportunities of a like kind, the extensive park belonging to the Centennial Grounds already adding to its natural beauty with the embellishments of art which public and private liberality is adorning its avenues, and the welcome accorded those who attend the opening of the Exhibition in keeping with the traditional hospitality of the people of Pennsylvania, and we trust will reflect honor upon the whole nation.

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In my last annual message I called attention to the vicious practice of granting charters for the purpose of incorporating banks, savings and trust companies without fixing proper and definite limitations to their powers and privileges, and providing for their enforcement. In the enactment of a general law, whereby banks can be organized without limit, it is of the highest importance to the business interests of the people, and the intelligent discharge of the duties that their powers and privileges be clearly defined, and any violation thereof speedily and effectually met by the penalties or the forfeiture of their charters.

The charters of these State banks and institutions were mostly granted within the past few years, and many of them possess powers and privileges that should never have been conferred. The Auditor General's report of 1874, shows they and over 50,000 of deposits, the average $10, $20, $30 and $40 of deposits for each dollar of capital stock paid in, and these in some instances, almost entirely upon their deposits for banking facilities. These are obtained by offering inducements for deposits, and loaned back to the community in which they are borrowed at higher rates of interest.

These banking institutions act as "middlemen" between the lender and the borrower, benefiting by the interest of advancing wherever they are established. That these banks and institutions, with rare exceptions, violate the spirit of their charters, is notorious; that excessive rates of interest are charged for the use of the funds of the people of this State. It became evident that reform must be looked for in the enactment of general government; in some places authority was strained and in others needed support; abuses in legislation time to time developed, the will of individuals and localities was enacted into law; corporations that were the creatures of the State forced to conform to the will of their creator, and cities, through special legislative grants were relieved from the burdensome control of the many. To correct these evils the people demanded a change that would be radical, and the new Constitution was framed and adopted. Special legislation bequeathed to the State a legacy of wrongs that have been fruitful of injustice, and some of whose injurious effects upon the peace and prosperity of the Commonwealth will be perpetuated to posterity, and if the new Constitution had no other merit than to confine this kind of legislation to its proper limits, it would secure the lasting gratitude of its citizens. The already existing provisions of the Constitution, and the absolute, all contest on the part of corporations, many of whom were jealous of its restrictions, will be cheerfully manifested loyalty to the best interests of the State. The public sentiment that demanded and obtained these wise restrictions will also take care that new or worse disorders do not creep into our political system.

A few suggestions more will be pardoned concerning another habit of our citizens which, I fear, will banish integrity from office, unless corrected.

Every well organized government very properly recognizes the necessity of punishing the abuse of power by its Representatives. The public has a right to expect honesty, diligence and a reasonable performance of duty from those whom it distinguishes by election or appointment, but on the contrary, are not the acted of every command, and the inspections always, when they fulfill these essentials, entitled to confidence and protection from detraction and abuse. To withhold merchants from contact with public employment, because it involves suspicion, mistrust and slander, to magnify offence, and to mollify, not degrade it. Respect for law will not be increased by holding up those who administer it to public contempt. The principle and justice of official acts should be examined, and the experience of the people sought, ought not to take their opinions on trust, but fairly and dispassionately investigate for themselves, and in requiring this duty from us should scrutinize closely the antecedents, character and fitness of candidates for office, and if they possess the necessary qualifications, and are elected, it alike exacts of us that we should give them a constant and truthful support. Let us be public benefactors.

BANKS, SAVINGS FUNDS AND TRUST COMPANIES.

We have in the State one hundred and nine banks, having a capital of $30,000,000, and about $52,000,000; and one hundred and seventeen State banks and savings institutions, whose capital, according to the last annual report of the General's report of 1874, was $8,370,168 85, in all three hundred and sixteen banks and savings institutions, with a capital of about $90,000,000. For the proper regulation of National banks we are dependent upon the National Government. For the regulation of State banks, savings funds and trust companies the State government is responsible to its people, and as it is probable a bill for the enactment of a general law, in compliance with the provisions of the new Constitution, for the organization of banks, may come before you, I call your attention to it for your special consideration thereto.

We esteem it a wanton, gross and unjustifiable wrong and libel on the fair fame of every citizen of our State and city. This Board have been established for purely commercial purposes; no political question has ever been discussed or proposed; but, in view of this criminal outrage upon the best interests of our city, by a stranger in temporary power, not only warrants but demands from us this expression of our unqualified denial of those vile aspersions upon our citizens; that we give our assurance to our brother underwriters at the North and West that we claim to be true and loyal citizens of the United States, and as such we are law-loving and law-abiding people, and that like kind, prompt and as safe with us as with them; for the truth of which we confidently appeal to the noble army of Knights Templar from every State in the Union, who recently visited our city; that we cannot but express our surprise that any one occupying the position of General Sheridan should presume to such knowledge of his alleged important facts upon such brief opportunities as he possibly could have during the short time he has been in the South, and the only excuse we find for such an outrage is the suggestion that comes to us this morning from New York, that this dispatch was written in Washington and sent to General Sheridan after he had left his Northern command; that we earnestly appeal to our Northern brethren, to the Congress of the United States, to their love of liberty and law, to their love of country, to unite with us that protection from this present violence and from wrong and outrage which may follow, which, as fellow citizens of this great country, we have a right to demand that we cordially endorse the manly and patriotic expressions of the Cotton Exchange at their last meeting.

(Signed) THOS. A. ADAMS, President.

ADDRESS OF CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE OF SEVENTY.

To the People of Louisiana: In the name of all that men hold dear and sacred, I implore my fellow-citizens to avoid by all means the traps which our enemies and oppressors have deliberately set for us. Our deliverance from political bondage depends upon our prudence and forbearance, and a conflict with the soldiers or authorities would be the ruin of our hopes—the riveting of our chains. A little more of the heroism, patience and forbearance which have already crowned you with imperishable honor, and the aroused sympathies of the entire country in your favor, and the consternation and misrule to which you are now subject will have ceased, and you will be once more a free, a prosperous, a happy people. (Signed) F. H. MARR,
Chairman of Committee of Seventy.

From the American People: Whereas, General Sheridan, now in command of the department of Missouri, under date of January 5, 1875, has addressed a communication to General Belknap, Secretary of War, in which he represents the people of Louisiana at large as breathing vengeance to all lawful authority and as guilty of most awful crimes; and whereas he has given to that communication full publicity; we, the the undersigned, believe it our duty to proclaim to the American people that these charges are unmerited unfounded and erroneous, and can have no other effect than of serving the interests of corrupt politicians, who are at this moment making the most extreme efforts to perpetuate their power over the State of Louisiana.

(Signed) P. J. PERCHE,
Archbishop of New Orleans.
J. P. B. WILMER,
Bishop of Louisiana.
WM. K. GOODWIN,
Pastor of Temple Sinai.
J. C. KEENER,
Bishop of Methodist Episcopal Church South.
C. DOLL,
Rector of St. Joseph's Church; and many others.

SHERIDAN ONCE MORE.

NEW ORLEANS, January 6, 1875.

To Hon. W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

The city is very quiet to-day. Some of the banditti made idle threats last night that they would make assassination because I dared to tell them the truth. I am not afraid, and will not be stopped from informing the Government that there are loafers in this Department where the very air has been impregnated with assassination for some years. (Signed) P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General Commanding.

KELLOGG BEFORE THE COMMITTEE.

Between one and two o'clock the Committee adjourned to the State House to take Governor Kellogg's testimony with the Returning Board Committee. In answer to Mr. Phelps, Mr. Kellogg said the White League, as a distinctive organization, was organized about April or May last, in the Teche parishes, notably in St. Martin and St. Mary's parishes. When he went to Washington, in June last, everything was quiet. The United States troops were recalled shortly after, but everything still remained quiet. The Metropolitan police at that time were a well organized and disciplined force. During the inauguration of visitors who came to the city at Mardi Gras was well testified that no colored man was killed at that time so well policed as New Orleans. About July the *Picayune* commenced publishing articles about the organization of a White League, and stated that large quantities of arms had been shipped to the country parishes. Governor Kellogg submitted an official report of the Adjutant General, showing that only about a hundred and fifty arms had been sent into the country and fifty of these were designed to arm a company of white cavalry, and the rest of them burnt up in the custom house, where they were stored. The balance were mainly old muzzle-loading Enfields, and many of them were simply loaned to the cadets of the Baton Rouge University. He absolutely denied that there was any White League, and asserted that the leaders of the White League were well aware of that fact, though many of the rank and file undoubtedly believed it. Mr. Phelps here left the Committee to return to Washington.

PLOT TO ASSASSINATE THE PRESIDENT.

Kellogg, continuing his testimony, narrated a surprising incident, which he said had been brought to his knowledge. In such a manner that he was bound to pay some regard to it, of a plot to assassinate the President, the conspirators in which were to rendezvous at Balbo. He exonerates the White League from any connection with this plan, which he believes was confined to a few visionaries, and he gave the Committee the name and address of his informant. In connection with the Returning Board he denied emphatically again that he had any caucus or consultation with them, and said they were responsible for their decision; in fact he thought the powers conferred on the Board were excessive, and he could not approve them, but the law was the one approved by Warmoth in the house of the Louisiana Legislature before he came into office. At the close of his testimony he handed to the Committee the following protest, which he said he had received, signed by fifty-two of the members declared elected to the Legislature, before he called on the troops to clear the Hall of unauthorized persons.

NEW ORLEANS, La., January 4, 1875.

To His Excellency Wm. P. Kellogg, Governor:

SIR—The undersigned members elect of the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of this State, assembled at the Hall of the House in the State Capitol at twelve o'clock this day, and answered to the call made by the Clerk. Immediately thereafter the chair was forcibly taken possession of, in violation of law, and an attempt was made to organize the House contrary to law. We cannot consent to legal rights unless the members elect are placed in possession of the Hall. Whenever the Hall is cleared of all persons except the gentlemen elected, we will proceed to organize. We therefore invoke your aid in placing the Hall in possession of the members elect, that we may attend to the performance of our duties.

COMPROMISE PROPOSES.

In a communication to Congressman McEnery and Penn, Mr. Foster, Chairman of the Sub-Congressional Committee, acknowledges the receipt of propositions, either written or oral, from each, offering to leave to the decision and arbitration of the committee the settlement of their various claims, declaring that they cannot further consider the question unless certainly assured that their decision, whatever it might be, would be promptly acted on by each and accepted by all as a final declaration of their rights. McEnery and Penn promptly replied affirmatively. Governor Kellogg, it is said, promised to reply by letter to Washington. Lieutenant Governor Antoine stated this evening, in an interview, that he would consent to no such compromise.

The Committee concluded their labors and left for Washington this afternoon.

POLITICAL SITUATION UNCHANGED.

The situation in the city remains unchanged. The troops in the State House have been reduced to some twenty men up stairs. There has been no excitement or any kind. The Conservative members met, in adjourned caucus at No. 1 St. Louis street, but nothing of special interest transpired. The members generally awaiting the preparation of the memorial, which it is thought will not be completed before to-morrow.

THE BANKERS' PROTEST.

The presidents and cashiers of the banks of the city met to-night and protested against the statements in General Sheridan's dispatch.

Happy Husbands.

It is a man's own fault if he is unhappy with his wife, in nine cases out of ten. It is a very exceptional woman who will not be all she can be to an appreciative husband, and more exceptional one who will not be very disagreeable if she finds herself wilfully neglected. It would be very easy to hate a man who, having bound a woman to him, made no effort to make her happy, and was not to love one who was constant and tender, and when a woman loves she always strives to please.

The great mass of this world have often been wretched in their domestic relations, while mean and common men have been exceedingly happy. The reason is very plain. Absorbed in themselves, those who desired the world's applause were careless of the little world at home; while those who had none of this ego to satisfy, tried to keep the hearts that were their own, and were happy in their tenderness.

No woman will love a man the better for being renowned or prominent. Though he be first among men she will only be prouder, not fonder; and if she loses him through this renown, as is often the case, she will not even be proud. But give him love, appreciation, kindness, and there is no sacrifice she would not make for his content and comfort. The man who loves her well is her king and her king. Nevertheless he is her thought he is not one to any other; no less a king though his only kingdom is her heart and home.

The daughter of the late Mr. Edward Kellogg calls public attention to the interesting fact that, so long ago as 1843, he urged as the basis of a sound currency the issue of controvertible legal tender notes—the very same thing that is now so strongly commended by Washington by many currency tinkers. This scheme involved everything that is covered by its friends now. The currency was to be convertible into interest-bearing bonds, which were to be reconvertible into currency at the pleasure of the holder.

A DISCOVERY has recently been made by an English chemist, Dr. Richardson, which promises to be of inmost blood may be made trials of a certain class. Comparing, under a powerful microscope, the human blood with that of the lower animals, he finds the globules of the former—even in their minimum size—to be larger in such animals as the horse, reindeer, sheep and goat. He asserts that, through this knowledge, stains made by human blood may be recognized as such, even after a lapse of five years.

LIST OF PATENTS.

Issued from the United States Patent Office to Citizens of the States of Pennsylvania and Ohio.

Following is the list of patents issued from the United States Patent Office to citizens of Pennsylvania and Ohio, for the week ending January 1, 1875, furnished for the COMMERCIAL from the office of J. McC. Perkins & Co., Counsellors-at-law and Solicitors for American and foreign patents, 513 Seventh street, Washington, D. C.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Apparatus for the Manufacture of Tin Plate—Thomas H. Johns, Pittsburgh. Filed August 18, 1874.

Hame Fasteners—Richard Gustin, Troy. Filed May 4, 1874.

Bouquet Holders—J. G. Dreher, Pine Grove. Filed October 24, 1874.

Sulky Plow—John A. Kneedler, Grant. Filed October 3, 1874.

Socket Bedding Machines—B. Murphy, Allegheny. Filed October 26, 1874.

Skeping Dies—Edward Gordon, McKeesport. Filed October 6, 1874.

Devices for Ascertaining Leakage in Main and Service Pipes—James M. Atkinson, Pittsburgh. Filed October 13, 1874.

Car Couplings—Jacob Shirk, Ephrata. Filed June 28, 1874.

Barrels for Vehicles—Wm. M. Hoffman, Topton. Filed October 10, 1874.

Shovel Plows—Jas. B. Glover, Sallasburg. Filed September 7, 1874.

Rope Sockets—Samuel Buckley, Parker's City, and Wm. Foster, Rockland township, Venango county. Filed June 2, 1874.

Bevel Riveting Machines—J. L. Piper and J. A. Nichols, Erie, Pa. Filed October 28, 1874.

Wagon Spring Seats—J. Griffith, Bellefonte. Filed September 14, 1874.

Machines for Grinding and Polishing Stone, &c.—Hugh Quigg, Allegheny. Filed February 16, 1874.

Scroll Sawing Machines—Ezra Alc and John A. Snyder, Harrisburgh. Filed August 22, 1874.

Safety Match Compositions—George Carl Johns Schneider, Erie. Filed August 18, 1874.

Hay Elevators—Lewis E. Sproul, Muncy. Patent No. 162,998, dated August 31, 1874. Filed November 25, 1874.

Wagon Axles—Jacob Skeen, Allegheny. Filed February 12, 1874.

Barrel Attachments for Reed Organs—John Van Sellen, Bethlehem. Filed June 5, 1874.

Sulky Harrows—D. Saigeon, Wattsburg. Filed October 2, 1874.

Curtain Fixtures—Robert A. Thompson, Beaver Falls. Filed April 25, 1874.

Saw Mills—John L. Knowlton, Sharon Hill. Filed August 31, 1874.

Car Springs—Walter P. Hansell, Pittsburgh. Filed November 24, 1874.

Barrel Attachments for Reed Organs—John Van Sellen, Bethlehem. Dated June 5, 1874.

Sulky Harrows—D. Saigeon, Wattsburg. Filed October 2, 1874.

Curtain Fixtures—Robert A. Thompson, Beaver Falls. Filed April 25, 1874.

Saw Mills—John L. Knowlton, Sharon Hill. Filed August 31, 1874.

RE-ISSUE.

Jelly Jar—Wm. C. King, Pittsburgh. Patent No. 5,956, dated May 6, 1874. Filed November 2, 1874.

OHIO.

Clutches for Sewing Machine Wheels and Pulleys—Duel W. Whitney, Cleveland, assignor to Wilson Sewing Machine Company, same place. Filed November 2, 1874.

Machines for Sheathing Moldings with Sheet Metal—Frederick Pollard, Cincinnati. Filed November 20, 1874.

Leather Scalloping Machines—Isaac P. Hull Miamisburg. Filed November 26, 1874.

Neck Tie Holders—L. B. Snow, Cleveland. Filed December 22, 1874.

Strainers—John Lapman and Martin Friedberg, Toledo. Filed September 12, 1874.

Planing Machines—D. Minert, Yellow Bud. Filed December 19, 1874.

Track Clearers for Mowers—Joseph E. Miller, Bucyrus. Filed November 3, 1874.

Plow Points—Luther H. Calvin and John Wallace, Melburn. Filed November 13, 1874.

MORTUARY REPORTS.

Number of Deaths, Causes, &c., in Pittsburgh and Allegheny During the Past Week—Other Statistics.

PITTSBURGH.

Dr. W. Shively, Physician to the Board of Health, makes the following report for the week ending January 2, 1875:

Causes of Death: Alcoholism, 1; accident by burn, 1; asthma, 1, atelectasis, 2; congestion of brain, 1; compression of brain, 1; bronchitis, 5; cholera infantum, 1; consumption, 5; convulsions, 2; croup, 1; typhoid fever, 6; scarlet fever, 5; remittent fever, 1; congestion of lung, 1; heart, disease not specified, 1; congestion of liver, 1; meningitis, 1; measles, 1; acute nephritis, 1; old age, 2; premature birth, 2; pneumonitis, 5; pyæmia, 1; lake bronchitis, 1; ulceration of throat, 1. Total, 51. Social Relations: Married, 12; single, 35; widows, 4. Nativity: Pittsburgh, 34; other parts of the United States, 2; England, 3; Germany, 5; Ireland, 2; Italy, 1; Scotland, 1. Age: Under 1 year, 17; from 1 to two years, 5; from 2 to 5 years, 6; from 5 to 10 years; 1; from 15 to 20 years, 3; from 20 to 30 years, 3; from 30 to 40 years, 5; from 40 to 50 years, 4; from 50 to 60 years, 1; from 60 to 70 years, 3; from 70 to 80 years, 1; from 80 to 90 years, 2; Locality: City proper, 50; Western Pennsylvania Hospital, 1.

COMPARATIVE TABLE.

	Death for 1875.	Deaths for 1874.
First quarter	1,277	1,578
Second quarter	748	813
Third quarter	1,152	1,069
Fourth quarter	748	751
Total	3,519	3,381
Decrease		138

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The cases of infectious diseases reported during the week are as follows: Scarlet fever, 15; tyhoid fever, 12; diphtheria, 12; measles, 2.

ALLEGHENY.

Health Officer Beck reports sixteen death during the week, ending last Saturday, as follows: Consumption, 3; diphtheria, 2; still born, 1; convulsions, 2; congestion of the brain, 2; pneumonia, 1; bronchitis, 1; accident, 1. Of these there were under one year, 4; between one and five, 4; between twenty and thirty, 4; between thirty and forty, 1; between forty and fifty, 1; between seventy and eighty, 1. Male, 11; female, 5; white, 13; colored, 3.

New York Finance and Trade.

Gold Closed at 112½.

NEW YORK, January 6, 1875.

MONEY

stringent early in the day at 5@6 per cent., but later in fair supply at 2½@4. Prime mercantile paper 6@7½ per cent.

GOLD

ranged from 112¾ to 112¾, closing at 112⅜; carrying rates 1@3 per cent.

STERLING

firm at 480@¼80. Customs receipts $213,000. Treasury disbursements $860,000. Clearings $25,000,000. One ton of silver was received at the Assay office to-day. Specie shipments $900,000.

GOVERNMENTS

firm.

U. S. coupons, 1881	118½	5-20's 1867	118½
5-20's, 1862	119¾	5-20's, 1868	118½
5-20's, 1864	118¾	New 5's	112⅞
5-20's, 1865	118½	10-40's	115
5-20's, 1865, new	117¾	Currency 6's	117½

STATE BONDS

quiet.

Missouri 6's	95	Do old	35
Tennessee, old	71	Tennessee, new	70
Do new	70	Do new	16
Virginia, new	35		

THE STOCK MARKET.

Railroads firm, the transactions aggregating 213,000 shares. Stocks opened weak and declined ½ per cent. from yesterday's prices, with a further decline, with more than exceptions, of ¾@1 per cent., Wabash, Pacific Mail, Northwestern preferred, Fort Wayne and Rock Island and Union Pacific. There was considerable selling of long stock, which had a depressing tendency. The New Orleans trouble had a tendency to unsettle public confidence, and the transactions aggregated 15,000 shares. Stocks, at the close, were generally weak and lower, with the exception of Western Union, which was strong and advanced ¾@1 per cent. Wabash, Pacific Mail, Northwestern preferred, Fort Wayne and Rock Island declined ¾@1 per cent. Lake Shore, Chicago and Northwestern, Union Pacific, Ohio & Mississippi, Illinois Central, Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago, Cleveland & Pittsburgh, Chicago & Rock Island, Pittsburgh & Fort Wayne, Michigan Central, Michigan Southern, Northwestern preferred, Cleveland & Toledo, Delaware, Lackawanna & Western, Del. & Hudson Canal, Ohio & Mississippi preferred, Western Union Telegraph, Quicksilver preferred, Adams Express, Wells-Fargo Express, American Express, U. S. Express, Pacific Mail, Central Pacific, Erie, Erie preferred, Michigan Southern, Illinois Central, Cleveland & Pittsburgh, Chicago & Northwestern, Del. & Hudson Canal, Panama R. R., Michigan Central

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1875.

THE Selma *Argus*, Democratic, wants "the whipping post restored to Alabama." Probably the editor is fearful that he may not otherwise get his deserts.

LAST year's expenses of the postal system exceeded the receipts in all but seven of the States and Territories, four of which were in New England. The excess of receipts over expenditures in Pennsylvania was $431,620.

THE amount to be paid out in New York, this month, as dividends and interest on government and State bonds, railroad stocks and bonds, insurance stocks and miscellaneous securities, aggregates $50,804,818. With the gold dividends reduced to currency, the total reaches about $51,000,000.

THE nature of General SHERIDAN'S mission down South appears to be of a somewhat similar character to that of General GRANT'S eight or nine years ago; the chief point of difference being that while the latter was instructed to discover why there was not prosperity in the South, the object of the former is to ascertain why there is not peace.

CAPTAIN E. B. WARD, of Detroit, one of the largest iron manufacturers in the country, fell dead from apoplexy in the streets of that city on Saturday. Captain WARD was one of the leading Republicans of Michigan, and a staunch defender of the policy of protection to our home industries. His death is a serious loss to the business interests of the entire Northwest.

THE Pennsylvania Company refuse to permit the Atlantic and Great Western Railroad Company to lay a third rail across their track at Mansfield, Ohio, which is necessary to complete the arrangement between the latter and the Baltimore and Ohio Company, to transfer freight between Chicago and New York. How the difficulty will terminate remains to be shown.

THE new Governor of Missouri declares it to be his set purpose to advocate and urge the widening and extending of the system of education until "every child, white or black, in the State shall be educated." An admirable resolve, which, if faithfully carried into execution, will go a long way toward redeeming that Commonwealth from the mischiefs and miseries of Bourbon rule.

THE public debt of the United States increased $5,569,967 during the month of December. This result arises principally from the marked decrease in the customs revenue, mainly caused by the very general practice of economy throughout the country, which obliges importers to contract their business. The increase of smuggling, also, has unquestionably had something to do with it. It is quite evident that this is no time for the passage of subsidy schemes.

THE city of Buffalo is carnivorous as well as granivorous. The receipts of cattle at that point during the year just closed largely exceeded those of any preceding year on record, the total by all the lines being about 460,000 head, against 409,738 head last year, and 379,086 in 1872. Buffalo is rapidly becoming one of the most important live-stock markets in the country, and we are glad to note that this branch of its general trade is in such a satisfactory and healthy condition.

NEW YORK'S "Compulsory Educational Act" goes into effect to-day. The more widely education is disseminated among all classes, the better, of course, for the country in general; still, we have little faith in the compulsory method. At least it would seem more philosophic for the Empire State first to provide proper school accommodations for the pupils which already throng her overpacked schoolrooms, before undertaking to solve the remainder of the educational problem.

THE increase of deposits in the Savings' Institutions of Massachusetts, last year, as compared with the previous year, indicates a gratifying condition of prosperity among the people of that State. There has been a gain over 1873 of $4,858 in the number of depositors, and a gain in deposits of $14,339,946 32. The latter is some $4,000,000 less than was obtained in 1873 over the previous year, but when the dullness of the times is taken into consideration, the indications are certainly favorable.

OUT in Wisconsin, the other day, one "Prince" RINDSKOPF, convicted of conspiracy to defraud the revenue, was sentenced to pay a fine of five thousand dollars and to imprisonment for one day. Now "Prince" was an honored chief among the "Reformers" of that State, and his ringing denunciations of the Republican party during the late Congressional campaign—for "Prince" was a "Reform" candidate for a seat in the national Legislature—were among the most memorable features of the canvass. Selah.

ST. LOUIS is not making that steady progress in the development of her iron manufacturing industries which we had anticipated. According to the annual trade review of that city for last year, the receipts of iron ore during 1873 amounted to 349,357 tons, while during 1874 the receipts were only 166,200 tons, showing a falling off of 183,157 tons. The shipments of iron ore in 1873 were 179,079 tons, and in 1874 they amounted to 108,400—a decrease of 70,679. There are now in Missouri seventeen iron furnaces.

THE woman suffragists of England express themselves confident that when a bill is brought before Parliament at the ensuing session, embodying their demands, it will pass into law. They have calculated that in the present House of Commons the majority in their favor will be five. Probably, however, many who have promised their support have done so in the hope that they will be in the minority, and who, should they find themselves mistaken, will decline to vote for the measure in its final stages.

ONE way to retrench is by defrauding the revenue, and there is no doubt that this particular method of economization has been very extensively practised by importers of late, especially along the Canadian frontier. This plan, however, will, in future, be found difficult of execution. Hereafter all imported goods in bond are to be inspected by United States agents, and all bonded cars will be loaded, locked and sealed in the presence and under the supervision of the United States officials. This will result in a marked decrease of smuggling.

FROM the detailed statistics of the business of Chicago for the year 1874, as published by the papers of that city, it appears that its total trade, in produce, wholesale and manufactures, excluding all second sales, was valued at $630,000,000, against $596,000,000 in 1873—a gain, despite the panic, the hue and cry against the safety of the city, and the damage caused by the withdrawal of the Insurance Boards, including shrinkage of values, of $45,000,000. This is certainly a most gratifying record, indicating, as it does, a steady and permanent advance in commerce, manufactures and general prosperity.

AN INTERNATIONAL Congress is proposed for the consideration of measures to remedy the ever-increasing devastation of forests. It is held that such an international effort has become necessary, especially for the preservation of forests at the sources of great water courses, inasmuch as their unlimited destruction brings about a fluctuation of water levels very injurious to commerce and industry, filling the channels with sand, weakening the banks, overflowing the cultivated fields, and occasioning injuries affecting not only a single territory, but also other countries. It is certainly an important question.

THE Democratic State officers of Virginia counted in a Democratic candidate for Congress by excluding the vote of a Republican county on account of informality. The Democratic State officers of Wisconsin did the same thing by excluding the votes of two Republican townships, for informality. And having thus carried two of their men into Congress, the Democrats now want to go to war because the Returning Board of Louisiana has followed the Democratic example! Circumstances alter cases. It was all right, so long as it worked in favor of the Democrats; but when it works against them, it is all wrong.

OUR theory that education is not necessarily a direct preventive of crime is further sustained by the statistics of the Northern Penitentiary of Indiana, where there are three hundred and twenty-two convicts who can read and write, and only ninety who can do neither. Knowledge is power, undoubtedly, but it is a power which may be made to degrade as well as to elevate. The education of the moral nature should go hand in hand with the development of the intellect. All our faculties must grow together and work together, else none of them will be apt to thrive properly. For the roots of being strike far below the brain.

BRIGANDAGE HERE AND THERE.

Robberies of railway trains and other such performances by organized bands of plunderers within the last few years have no doubt suggested to many persons the possibilities of brigandage in the United States. The country unquestionably presents quite extraordinary advantages for the practice of the profession. The mere extent and the physical or geographical features of the country may be mentioned, and its political subdivision into separate and independent States is a fact which might readily be turned to useful account by bandits in facilitating their operations and in evading or postponing punishment. That the native element of our population furnishes, or could furnish, brigands of unsurpassed quality and accomplishments will not be disputed by any person familiar with the annals of crime. The audacity, ingenuity and alertness of American scoundrels seem likely soon to obtain for them a splendidly flagitious pre-eminence. Moreover, the tastes and predispositions which naturally lead to the adoption of the most daring and dignified branch of the larcenous profession are manifestly not neglected by our youthful aspirants for distinction. On the contrary, the tastes and predispositions referred to are cherished and cultivated with increasing assiduity by a class which grows more numerous every year. This statement will surely be corroborated by every one who lives in a city with open eyes. For what other reason is the *Police Gazette* in such lively demand among boys to whom reading is a most difficult and laborious operation? *Day's Doings*, also, is painfully and patiently spelled out by lads whose constitutional dislike of letters could have been so far overcome only by love of the subject. But, perhaps, the extent to which "Dime novels" are devoured by youthful minds is the most satisfactory confirmation of the statement.

Seriously, glancing over newspapers from cities, towns, villages, in all sections of the country, one is struck with the commonness of a crime which, a few years ago, was of comparatively rare occurrence in the United States. Robbery, with force threatened or applied, has become one of the most ordinary forms of warfare upon property. In one newspaper we read that a party, of four or five men go together into a horse car, where each of the band seizes some article of more or less value from a passenger, and then all the scoundrels withdraw and escape with impunity. In another newspaper, we read that a farmer driving home from market is met on the highway, near his own home, by two men armed with pistols, who take his money and his watch. Another paper tells how an isolated farm-house is invaded and plundered by three or four men, who use what violence is found necessary to overpower the inmates, etc., etc. In the course of almost any week our exchanges, examined for the purpose, would yield a startling, if not alarming aggregate of such examples. No doubt the hard times and the great number of men out of employment have something to do with these cases. But hard times and enforced idleness are not the sole explanation. The phenomenon is a natural development of crime appropriate to the conditions of the country, the consequential outgrowth of its progress in population, wealth and industry, with the temptations and opportunities by which such progress is attended.

Persons who take little, if any, note of this peculiar development of rapacious depravity among ourselves, who make no effort to forecast its possible expansion into an evil of vast and portentous proportions, read of Italian brigandage with mere wonder at the monster, or else with mere contempt for the imbecility of the government and people which tolerate it. It is not easy for an American either to comprehend or make allowance for such a state of things as brigandage seems to have established in Sicily and in several other parts of the kingdom of Italy. In Sicily, though the government has adopted and at least tried to carry out some pretty strong measures, the bandits still have the upper hand. Rural districts and towns are about equally under a reign of terror; while neither proprietors nor government collectors dare to show themselves except in powerful parties, the brigands go where they please in complete safety. The accounts given in some continental journals of brigand societies in Italy furnish strange reading. There, for instance, are the "Stabbers of Ravenna." Within the last two months, or a little more, the functionaries of the government have investigated and disposed of ten assassinations by those worthies, and many more cases remain to be inquired into. Originally the "Stabbers" were all professional brigands, and it was their captain, one CAVALCOLI GIOVANNI, who conceived the idea of organizing his followers into a regular "society for mutual assistance," a society to be recognized by the city government and to include some members so respectable as to be above suspicion. Within this "permitted society" the select circle or sect of Stabbers was to carry on its operations. Their object was money and their methods were, in the first place, threats, which proving ineffectual in extorting money, were followed by assassination of the obstinate person who refused to yield to threats. The members seem to have been energetic and industrious, as in six years a hundred and seven stabs were administered, and thirteen assassinations were committed. The stabs without fatal results were dealt, it appears, for the purpose of emphasizing threats, a sharp reminder that the threats meant business and that death would follow if the money demanded was not given. It is not, however, pretended that these statistics are exact: they show only the finding of the government investigation. But the most significant statement touching the subject is that this "society for mutual assistance" had at length so completely overawed the police that they were afraid in any way to interfere with the members in the prosecution of their business.

Another society of the same class, lately brought to light by the government, is that of the *accoltellatori*, the Men of the Knife. This organization was betrayed by a mere accident. One Count ALDRIT DE CESENA having been killed by two persons to whom he had refused money, his papers indicated that he had intimate relations with a number of the secret societies of the Romagna, and among the rest with the society named. In consequence of the revelations thus made by the papers of the murdered Count, some forty persons have been arrested and many houses have been searched for weapons and papers. These societies may serve as specimens of the manner in which brigandage is organized in Italy.

In a recent message or address to the Italian Parliament, the King directs attention to the subject, and calls for the adoption of measures for the re-establishment of public security. The King also thinks it necessary to remind his legislators that even nations the most jealous of their liberties in defending property have set an example which Italians may advantageously follow. Probably the ministry will propose to place the districts disturbed by the brigands under martial law. But to this step the opposition are bitterly hostile, as being a step dangerous to personal liberty. In the existence of this feeling, we most likely have a partial explanation of the recent frightful expansion and prevalence of brigandage. A people with whom the vigilance committee is a recognized institution can hardly be fancied hampering its action by any such scruples. Brigandage, therefore, though it might increase to an enormous extent in the United States, would in due time be so dealt with as to cease to be alarming. If the regular governments failed in their duty the people would directly take it in hand, and make of the evil short work.

1874.

Though by no means illustrious in the annals of mankind, the year 1874 has been sufficiently marked to be forever distinctly memorable. While neither an epoch nor an era, the studious reader of history in the remote future may safely suppose able without difficulty to associate the period with issues and developments of universal and permanent interest. In the annals of the American Republic the year will always be remembered as a time of financial crisis and depression. Old business men at present speak of it as the worst year they have ever known; some declare it the worst financial year in the entire history of the country, and with needful commentary, the saying may be accepted as true. In consequence of the enormous advancement of the nation in population, industry and wealth, arrest or disturbance of regular, prosperous movement in the vast organism was necessarily followed by effects more striking and embarrassing than any ever before experienced in the country. Hence the year may stand in our national history as the period within which certain methods or processes of financial management, suggested by the conditions or instigated by the necessities of the nation, developed their proper evil effects, culminating in a crisis which may have been foreseen for years, but which human nature being what it is, could not have been prevented. Though a calamitous disturbance, it has not been a catastrophe, and as the crisis has certainly been the subject of earnest inquiry and reflection on the part of the people, we may hope that the year just past may stand in our history as the beginning of a new era in the financial economy of the country. We do not, however, profess to be prophets.

Glancing back over the year 1874, one cannot help recalling the so styled crusade movement in Ohio and other Western States. Though the movement may not be deemed worthy of mention in a general history to be written five hundred years hence, we do not feel sure of its being passed over in silence by the historian of the United States at that future date. Scorn is now the portion of those writers who, compiling the history of England in the eighteenth century, omitted to record the rise of Wesleyan Methodism. Certainly our Western crusades are not to be compared with Wesleyan Methodism in practical importance, but they were very remarkable phenomena. As social symptoms, as traits in the development of manners, they were unquestionably the most significant and noteworthy indications of the year in which they originated, and as such they at once attracted attention and called forth comment in the press of all civilized nations. In England, France, Italy, Germany, people read at first with incredulity and then with amazement of the strange doings of the new crusaders, and with still greater amazement they read of the toleration and indulgence with which the crusaders were treated by the citizens of the Great Republic. Whatever may be thought of the worth or results of the movement, it is precisely one of those phenomena which, illustrating the history of manners, are especially worthy of careful record. Nor do we doubt, that, in due time, the moral or practical lesson of the movement fully understood, shall form part of the history of the fact.

In the political history of the country the year 1874 must always be memorable. The disturbances in Louisiana, Arkansas and elsewhere, however insignificant they may seem in the general recollection after a few years, must still possess real interest for all who study American history and institutions. Indeed, we may say the same of the condition of the Southern States generally; during the past year it has been such as to encourage or to disappoint the Northern observer according to his views of reconstruction. The so-called Republican overthrow of the year, in so far as it was an overthrow, was a defeat of Republicans by Republicans, one of those paroxysms of sudden disgust or indifference to which every great party is liable, but which indicates no real change in the abiding convictions of a majority of its members.

In Great Britain the unexpected defeat of the Liberal Party and the restoration of the Conservatives to power have been important events of 1874. But at present this change of administration seems to be thrown into shade by the excitement which the Gladstone pamphlet on Papal pretensions and assumptions has produced. In fact, the ex-Premier merely applied a match; the inflammable material was ready. Ever since the action of the Vatican Council, almost every Catholic country has been more or less violently agitated. The question which the Council's decree rendered vital, the question as to the right limits of civil and spiritual powers, Great Britain, through its Irish population practically interested in the subject, has not been indifferent to the question, though saying little about it. Stimulated by its discussion on the continent, especially in Germany, the English people have been thinking about it all along, and the appearance of Mr. GLADSTONE'S pamphlet at once loosened their tongues. The year 1874 will long remain memorable for conflicts between the Papacy and civil governments, and for the lively interest and sympathy with which such conflicts have been watched by the world. Without exaggeration it may be said that the attempt of the Church of Rome to resume its ancient mediæval sway over governments as well as persons has been the subject of most general and lively interest among all civilized nations during the past year. Likely enough this discussion, a hundred years hence, may seem to have been the most momentous subject that engaged public attention during the year 1874. In Italy, in Brazil, in Germany, in Austria, in France, in Switzerland, it is a directly practical question, upon the decision of which immense issues depend, and it may be that England is, or ought to be, as much concerned as any other power in its settlement. The English people appear to be fast coming to that opinion, at any rate, and if the impression now prevalent among them should continue or increase, the results in reference to the conflict on the continent cannot but be valuable. We may add that, by the new Constitution of Switzerland, adopted in 1874, the Swiss have placed themselves squarely on the side of free thought and free conscience as against the pretensions of the Catholic hierarchy.

Spain has seen so many revolutions and civil wars, is so much predisposed to chronic troubles and semi-anarchy, one hardly knows whether to consider any Spanish event, whether *coup d'etat*, revolution or what not as of decisive and fixed moment. Certainly it would be rash thus to treat the fall of CASTELAR and the revolution which followed, but one may hope for the best.

REVOLUTION IN SPAIN.

Since the resignation and withdrawal of King AMADEUS, events in Spain have run through the course prescribed by Spanish history. In other words, events have followed established precedents, if one may so speak; there has been the succession of changes, revolutions, states of semi-anarchy, etc., which the past authorized us to expect. Some might be inclined to regard the republic as a feature of novelty in the recent evolution of Spanish affairs, but it may hardly be so regarded with reason, as the republic has been a mere name and nothing more. Republicans in any just sense of the word are very few in Spain, possibly some hundreds in all; while of republicans in the sense in which the word is used by wild theorists, there are a good many. Democrats who believe in the right of people to do as they please, or who believe in the absolute necessity of a complete reorganization of society from top to bottom—Socialists, Communists, Internationals; such are the principal representatives in Spain of what is sometimes called the republican idea. They are numerous and eager to fight for their theories, and until they shall become few through the influence of instruction, a republic in the American sense of the term is impossible in Spain. Hating property in the possession of other people, and hating religion as understood by the Catholic Church, they are feared and abhorred about equally by property owners and by the adherents of the church, who are prepared to do almost anything and to accept almost any government to prevent their ascendancy.

As the champion of religion, social order and property, Don CARLOS, it is well known, has had the support of many who detested his dynasty and his Divine right pretensions. Many, some say a majority, of his officers have really all along preferred Prince ALFONSO, and have fought for Don CARLOS as representing religion and property against their enemies. Moreover, rational, well-informed republicans of the most respectable school, seem to have become convinced some time ago that however favored by circumstances, *they* could not establish and maintain a government capable of harmonizing or controlling the hostile elements with which it would have to deal. They seem to have become assured that the nominal republic administered by SERRANO, manifestly a temporary affair, must soon or later give place to a monarchy. Perhaps few of them expected the revolution quite so soon. But according to the custom of Spanish soldiers, officers of the army concluded that the time had come for the inevitable change, and therefore proclaimed Don ALFONSO. They seem to have judged rightly as to the popular feeling, whether they cared for it or no. If at this writing reports be true, the *pronunciamiento* in favor of ISABELLA'S son has been received with remarkable good will. Such good will it is in vain for Americans to try fully to comprehend. As everybody knows, the mother of the Prince just declared King was driven from the throne and the country, as being not only a bad queen but a scandalously vicious woman. She came honestly by her dishonesty, as her mother had been as bad as, if not worse, than she. Besides, the Prince, though surely the son of his mother, is well known not to be the son of his father—a fact, however, of no particular advantage to him, as his reputed and his real fathers were equally unexemplary. As for the Prince ALFONSO himself, he is too young to have shown very clearly his nature, but he is weak in health and not intellectually bright, and if there is any virtue in pedigree the chances against his becoming either a good King or a good man are many. Certainly if Spaniards feel on such subjects as some other people feel, then their cheerful acceptance of Don ALFONSO as their King in spite of his genealogy is striking proof how utterly weary and disgusted they must have become with the uncertainties and anxieties of their political condition during the last few years. It must be remembered that between Don CARLOS and Don ALFONSO, choice of the latter might seem easy even to the most high-minded man. Anything more repulsive than the principles and traditions of Carlism can scarcely be conceived; they belong to darker ages and are simply intolerable at the present time, and a king of any pedigree no matter how tainted and of any character, no matter how vicious or imbecile, might well seem preferable to a monarch of the purest descent and most correct habits, if this paragon of royal virtue happened to have been assidnously nurtured from infancy in the delusions of the "right Divine of Kings to govern wrong" and in the ferocious bigotry and fanaticism naturally associated with the delusion.

Don ALFONSO for his part, we may be sure, will not insist upon his royal prerogatives nor will he pretend a command from Heaven to establish the orthodox faith by extinguishing heresy. On the contrary, he will doubtless, in the joy of his restoration to the ancestral throne, make whatever concessions to the popular liberties may be required of him by the men who have taken the lead in making him King. Not unlikely, after no long time, he may forget or feign to forget his concessions, or in other ways verify his pedigree by proving false to his word; but happily in that case he will, after the ancestral example, make haste to render himself generally odious and contemptible, whereupon the Spaniards will make haste to rid themselves of his troublesome presence. It will be easily done.

THE DEAD OF 1874.

Comparatively few men of world-wide reputation died during the year 1874. Perhaps among the deceased the names most familiarly, however vaguely, known to all persons capable of reading are those of DAVID L. STRAUSS and FRANCIS GUIZOT. STRAUSS was the author of that Life of JESUS which gave rise to so many replies, and has exerted so memorable an influence in different ways upon Biblical studies. He also published various other books, one of them being a course of lectures on the life and works of VOLTAIRE. Those lectures were prepared and delivered at the request of Queen VICTORIA'S daughter, the Princess ALICE, of Hesse. His last work was, "The Old Faith and the New." GUIZOT, famous as a politician, minister, etc., will be best and most favorably remembered for his books.

Another rather celebrated French writer dead during the year was JULES JANIN; a brilliant journalist and writer for the stage. AGNES STRICKLAND, author of several historical works; PROCTER, (better known as BARRY CORNWALL,) the very sweet English poet; and Madame PAUTIER ROSA, the singer, are all worthy names, familiar to millions. Then CHARLES ASTOR BRISTED, a copious writer for the press on occasional topics, produced one book of real value as a contribution to the cause of education in this country; Five Years in an English University. CHARLES SUMNER will be recalled by every one among the distinguished dead of the year. To these we may add Rev. Dr. E. N. KIRK, of Boston, a most eloquent Congregational preacher and translator of GAUSSEN on plenary inspiration of the Bible; the Rev. JOSEPH TORREY, a learned writer on church history; ex-President WALKER, of Harvard University; Rev. Dr. ELLIOTT, of Western Theological Seminary, and Bishop MORRIS, of the Methodist Church; Bishop WHITEHOUSE and Bishop LEE, of the Episcopal Church, both eminent in zeal and labors.

Judge EDMONDS of New York, though a respectable jurist, was especially well known as a spiritualist; J. R. TOMLINSON'S name needs no comment in this part of the world. BENJAMIN R. CURTIS, of New York, was an eminent jurist. Perhaps no American who died during the year will be longer remembered or was more regretted than Prof. JEFFRIES WYMAN, the anatomist. On both sides of the Atlantic he was expected to render to science increasingly valuable services. EZRA CORNELL, founder of Cornell University, JONATHAN STURGES, a New York capitalist, and GERRIT SMITH, were each of them a noble illustration of American character, setting splendid examples of a noble use of riches, and in other ways stimulating and encouraging their fellows to live worthy lives.

WHY is it that men who engage in new political enterprises resort to bombast as their first weapon? The platform of a "Retrenchment and Reform" club formed in one of our city wards, and published yesterday, is an illustration in point. The object of this organization, to secure the election of Councilmen who will retrench the expenses of the city, cut off unnecessary municipal enterprises, and establish honesty as the rule in managing city affairs, is a good one; but surely it could have been expressed in plain, simple words and without lugging in all the adjectives, metaphors and tropes the language is capable of. What do they mean, for instance, in demanding that their candidates shall "set their faces against the *avenues* of fraud and corruption?" Either the avenues must be very small, or the faces of the candidates in the Seventeenth ward must be excessively large if they are big enough to close up such openings. We have witnessed a great deal of cheek in candidates, in our time, but we have never come across enough in one ward for the successful enforcement of such a contract. The avenues of fraud will never be closed by merely setting faces against them; but as the chosen favorites of these word-mongers will also be required to "sweep away everlastingly the leeches that swarm in our public places," as well as to "lop off from our decaying municipal body the parasitical limbs that fatten upon the sweat of our blood," they may, by combining the three pursuits, get ahead of the public servants who, "oblivious of their sworn duty to God and man, by crooked ways and devious paths become debtors to public virtue and honesty," It is to be hoped so, at least; but it is also to be hoped that they will at the same time learn how to express themselves in plain English, and leave balderdash to those who have less stern tasks to perform.

IT is beyond question that, in the Roman Catholic theory, church matters run over into all State affairs, and pursue us everywhere. Not a little excitement has been caused in England by the explicit declaration of the London *Tablet*, noticed by us in yesterday's paper—that, should Great Britian be at war, and the temporal sovereignty be at issue, and the Pope command or advise English soldiers and sailors to desert their flag and fight against their country, it would be their duty to do so. This is an unreserved admission that Catholic loyalty to the British crown is controlled by a paramount allegiance to a foreign sovereign. The New York *Freeman's Journal* virtually takes the same ground with reference to the political allegiance of Catholics in this country, putting obedience to the Pope above obedience to the civil law. To be sure there is not here any union of church and State, and therefore the question is not at present a practical one; but abstract doctrines are like grains of powder, and sometimes take fire. Suppose that when, during the New York draft riots in 1863, Archbishop HUGHES made his appearance before the rioters, and by a wave of his hand sent them to their homes, he had waved it the other way, backed by the dogma of Papal infallibility, and under instructions from His Holiness that it would be best for the interests of the church should the Republic go down? What would have been the probable result of our struggle for national existence, had the five million Catholics in the United States been turned under such pressure against the flag? We do not mean to intimate the slightest doubt of the loyalty of our Catholic fellow citizens, but "a Catholic first and a citizen afterwards," is a dangerous doctrine, whether in the Old World or the New.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Philadelphia *Press*, writing from the anthracite coal fields, shows that while it costs but $2 18, at present rates of wages to mine and prepare for market a ton of anthracite coal, it costs $2 02 per ton to carry it over the railroad to Philadelphia. Only $1 12 per ton, of the $2 18 which it costs to get the coal ready for market, goes to the miner and the laborers. The operators now propose to reduce these wages 15 per cent.; and this reduction, when made, will reduce the prime cost of a ton of coal just 17 cents—no more and no less. It is very plain from these figures that a reduction in the miners' wages will have scarcely a perceptible effect upon the price of the coal itself. It now costs $4 20 to lay down a ton of coal in Philadelphia, and a reduction of 15 per cent. in miners' and laborers' wages would bring the cost down to $4 03 per ton. If, therefore, the market price of anthracite coal to furnaces, factories and other large consumers, is to be materially reduced, something more is needed than a mere curtailment of laborers' wages. The cost of transportation must also come down. It will not do, in the light of these facts, to put all the burden of high prices on the poor miners. If they, and the laborers, were to work for nothing, the cost of coal would only be reduced a small fraction over a dollar a ton. Cheap coal means cheap transportation as well as cheap mining; and we shall believe the operators and the railroads are in earnest when they apply to themselves the same standard as they are anxious to apply to the miners.

WHILST the year that has just passed bore off a heavy burden in business and enterprise, it has, nevertheless, left behind an abundant store for the sustenance of the nation, larger confidence for the future, and thorough preparation for the industrial and trade operations by which the country thrives. It was emphatically a year of economy and retrenchment. Saving was the order of the day, and there can be no doubt that many branches of trade will be all the better for this ordeal. Hence, if the outlook for the future seems less cheerful than some of us had hoped for, still the fact should be remembered that the grounds of recovery are much more solidly established than they were a year ago. Beside, the recent over-supply in every kind and variety of goods is rapidly dwindling down, and these facts are fully noted by the manufacturers, who never fail to comprehend when advancing prospects are brightening and chances are in their favor.

AN IMPORTANT meeting of Southern railroad Presidents and directors was held at Macon, Georgia, a few days ago, all the lines from Louisville to Norfolk, and from Florida to St. Louis, covering capital to the extent of $100,000,000, being represented. It was frankly admitted that they were rapidly running down; that the earnings were not sufficient to pay the expenses, and that something must be done to save them from ruin. Hence it was resolved to raise the rates of freight, to stop all pretensions to competition, and to pool the gross earnings of the whole, and divide each month money pro rata. We suspect that there are too many of these roads for the 'meager They have gone ahead of the tardy development of their States, and will have to go slow for awhile in order to enable the drowsy people to overtake them.

A COMPARISON of the British Board of Trade returns for the eleven months of last year ended November 30th, (the latest date for which returns have been received,) with the corresponding periods of the three preceding years, it shows that in 1871 the exportations of iron to the United States were 778,266 tons; in 1872 they were 753,216 tons; in 1873 they declined by more than fifty per cent., to 357,137 tons, and last year there was another drop to 176,841 tons. The result of the four years' movement is that the exports of iron and steel in 1874 were less than twenty-three per cent. of the corresponding exports of 1871. A considerable part of this decline is undoubtedly to be attributed to the depression in business in this country, but there is also much to be ascribed to the larger dependence on home manufactures.

THE revival of shipbuilding upon American waters is not confined to iron ships. Some Philadelphia merchants have combined to build a large wooden ship, in Maine, of 2,200 tons measurement, to be called the City of Philadelphia, which is the probable forerunner of many others of the same kind. New York is content to carry on commerce in foreign ships, but Philadelphia has an ambition to see American supremacy on the ocean re-established, and we are glad to know that Pennsylvania takes the lead in the re-establishment of it. New York can growl and howl about the decay of American commerce, but she has not the patriotism or the enterprise to undertake the work of arresting that decay.

THE vote in the old Twenty-third Congressional district, at the special election held last month, shows what a change has already been wrought in the public mind, since the November election. At this special election the Democrats had no regular candidate, but they gave their support to the independent candidates, NEVIN and BAILLIE. The vote at the two elections contrasts as follows:

	November.		December	
	Rep.	Dem.	Rep.	Dem.
Allegheny	4,569	3,383	3,456	1,349
Butler	4,123	3,698	2,470	278
Armstrong	3,868	3,525	1,598	668
	12,490	11,205	5,274	2,495
	11,295		2,495	
Rep. majority	1,285		2,809	

THE Democratic papers of the country have undertaken too big a contract. They are trying to run both parties, and in their wild efforts to manage the Republican party to suit their own purposes, they are permitting their own party to drift away from its moorings. Let them attend exclusively to their own organization. It will give them enough to do. The Republican party is abundantly able to take care of its own concerns, and will do it much better than the Democrats can do it for them. From present appearances, the Democrats will soon find their own troubles sufficiently great to absorb their entire attention.

The Business Outlook.

McKillop & Sprague's Commercial Agency, in reviewing the past year and forecasting the future, feels warranted in anticipating a general improvement in business for 1875. No doubt some of our readers may suggest that such a prophecy requires small inspiration, since things mercantile have been so drooping for a year that improvement cannot well be deferred much longer. But, if we compare the December of 1874 with the same month of 1873, we shall have little difficulty in believing that the tide has turned, and the march of upward progress once more set in. In point of fact, there have been no more mercantile failures this year than were gazotted the year before, and if 1875 were credited (or charged) with the bankruptcies and financial distresses really belonging to it, the present year would have the better record of the two as regards failures among business men.

Moreover, reasonable ground for hopeful prediction is furnished by the fact that, during the past twelvemonth, our people, including the mercantile and trading classes, have been schooled in economy. Indebtedness has been largely diminished, values have been reduced, and probably $400,000,000 will fairly represent the sum that has been economised during 1874. Then the crops have been good, the rural districts are in sound condition, and both in town and country much is due to accumulation foisted upon us by the war has been sloughed off. Business men are less speculative in their habits and ventures, and, like children who have been burned, they have now a wholesome dread of the fire. Hence we may calculate upon a somewhat general return of the good old methods of doing business, and a consequent re-establishment of old-fashioned confidence between all classes of the community. It would seem, therefore, that among the greetings and compliments of the season we may include with our "Happy New Year" wishings, a well founded hope of a greatly improved business outlook for 1875.

It is reported that silver has been discovered in inexhaustible quantities on a farm in Cowley county, Kansas.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The tonnage of the port of Milwaukee aggregates 61,016.19 tons.

Chicago erected during the last year 757 buildings, costing $5,700,000.

The total business of Evansville, last year amounted to $52,138,182.

Pretty fair. The total business of St. Louis, last year, was $800,000,000.

The Oregon Grangers are building an immense grain warehouse at Salem.

The large estates in the West are said to be breaking up, and we are not sorry to hear it.

If the Pacific Mail Steamship Company should go down, the verdict will be—died of dishonesty.

The busy bee. California's honey exports for last year amounted to nearly half a million pounds.

The New York postoffice returns a revenue to the Government of nearly $2,000,000 over all expenses.

Pennsylvania ranks first among the lumber producing States, with an annual production of $28,958,985.

The aggregate jobbing and manufacturing transactions of Leavenworth, Kansas, for last year, reach the sum of $18,351,489.

The New Year is like a white sheet of paper. Be careful how many marks you put upon it. Keep the record as clean as you can.

The scheme to organize a National Department of Insurance on the same plan as the national banking system, is again revived.

The centennial of the battle of Lexington is to be celebrated April 19. This is the first "go off" of the revolutionary souvenir business.

St. Louis shows for last year an aggregate clearing house business of $1,215,934,855, an increase since last year of $113,000,000, or over ten per cent.

Nemesis. A Canadian official report on lunacy says about fifty per cent. of the idiots of large towns in Canada are the children of drunkards.

The disease known as "black death" is playing havoc with the population of DeKalb county in Tennessee. It is a bilious dysentery of a fatal type.

A certain Democratic editor out in Kansas don't take any stock in the Mennonites, for the reason that the Bible says "we cannot serve God and Mennon."

The Virginia Midland Railroad Company offers to give ten acres of land to families that settle along the line of their road in Campbell and Spotsylvania counties.

There is a memorial before Congress asking for the enactment of laws which will make it practicable, as well as legal, the use of the metric system of weights and measures.

Now, as a century ago, people go to Palestine to die, in the belief that the world is near its end, and a woman, Hermine Schul, has just led a pilgrimage of this kind from Silesia to the Holy Land.

The Chinese papers oppose the introduction of railroads because, as the trains "go even faster than a thoroughbred horse, people walking on the lines will have no time to get out of the way."

Boston is the only American city that can boast of a "Hawaiian Club." Its members are persons who have lived in, or visited, or in any way become specially interested in the Sandwich Islands.

Encouraging. The Kiowas, Apaches and Cheyennes have signified their willingness to avail themselves of an opportunity to place their children at school, and ask that schools be opened immediately.

The proposition by the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church for a National Christian Temperance Convention of delegates from all the evangelical churches of the country, has failed.

The total tonnage of the United States was 4,800,642 tons in 1874, being an increase over 1873 of 106,626 tons. The canal boat tonnage, which amounts to 353,955 tons, is not included in these statistics.

Duluth is discussing the project of laying a railroad track on the ice from Duluth to the Sault Ste. Marie, a distance of four hundred miles. It is claimed that the ice on Lake Superior lasts until April, and is thick enough to sustain any number of freight trains.

Last year the representatives of the papers were treated so discourteously at the official White House reception on the 1st of January, that but few were present on Friday, and, the Washington *Star* says, those few were treated to a repetition of this rudeness.

The last issue of the *Country Gentleman* contains the following advertisement: "Thoroughbred Ayrshire cattle. Cotswold sheep and Berkshire pigs, from the most fashionable imported stock." When it comes to *fashionable pigs*, who shall say that the downfall of the country is not near at hand?

PERSONAL.

Forty or fifty European journalists are going to travel through the United States during the Centennial season to "write us up."

The Rev. G. W. Williams, a colored Baptist minister, of Boston, has applied for the chaplaincy of the Massachusetts House of Representatives.

John Bright, who has long done little as a public man, is about to return to his self-imposed duties. His illness, which has now lasted nearly five years, is not only at an end, but the effects of it are not perceptible to the outward appearance.

A bill is now before Congress to appropriate a sum not exceeding twenty thousand dollars, to erect a statue of Zachary Taylor in the city of Washington. Meanwhile the grave of the ex-President, near Louisville, is neglected and marked hardly by a stone.

A delicate relationship. A Richmond female darkey said in court last Wednesday morning that the children of her Mississippi husband were the half children of her Virginia husband, and "she intended to make 'em both half 'sponsible for dar vittals." The court rendered no decision, but took time to consider.

Mrs. Cornelia Jones, of New Haven, was divorced from her husband last spring, the court giving the mother the possession of her little boy. In November the father took the boy out for a walk, but went with him to Minnesota, whither the mother followed them, when a reconciliation was effected, and the divorced pair were again married, a few days ago.

Mr. Chauncey Rose, of Terre Haute, Indiana, has just made a donation of $350,000 to certain local scientific and benevolent institutions, in addition to some $300,000 previously given to similar objects elsewhere. This habit of giving away money to benevolent objects during the donor's lifetime, rather than by a last will and testament, is to be strongly commended and encouraged.

In a recent lecture on the "Common School in America," Sir Charles Reed, Chairman of the School Board of London, gave a review of the observations he had made during an extended tour through the United States and Canada. Contrasting the schools of this country with those in England, he said he was prepared to admit America's present superiority of organization and result.

Trenton, New Jersey, has just celebrated the anniversary of the capture of the Hessians. Adam Exton, with an army of one hundred and fifty men, personated George Washington and his victorious Continentals, while Duncan McKenzie, who had been prevailed upon to represent the British commander, Colonel Hahl, let himself be "mortally wounded," with a grace and dignity befitting the occasion.

OHIO NEWS.

A new lodge of Masons is talked of in Akron.

The new rolling mill in Ashtabula is now in operation.

The Blandys, of Zanesville, shipped two portable engines to the South African diamond fields last week.

The next meeting of the State Teachers' Association will be held at Put-in-Bay on June 29th and 30th and July 1st.

B. E. Smith has resigned the Presidency of the Hocking Valley Railroad Company, and M. M. Greene takes his place.

Washington, Fayette county, has subscribed the full amount of